INFANTRY NEWS



THE TOW TRAINING offered by the U.S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia is being modified. This modification was prompted by the success of the current Bradley infantry fighting vehicle (BIFV) training.

The present four-week TOW Leader Course is open to officers and noncommissioned officers (NCOs) from all Army components. In Fiscal Year 1993, 65 percent of the 196 students in this course were second lieutenants and 35 percent NCOs. The modified training splits this target audience into two separate courses: The four-week TOW Master Gunner Course, which teaches advanced technical skills and training management to experienced MOS-qualified NCOs; and the two-week TOW Platoon Leader Course, which teaches the basic technical and tactical skills to young officers.

Pilot tests for both courses will be conducted in 1994 as shown on the accompanying schedule. One of the officer classes will be conducted at Fort Bragg by a Mobile Training Team (MTT) from Fort Benning.

The TOW Master Gunner Course. open to NCOs in the ranks of sergeant (promotable) and above and in MOSs 11H and 19D, includes five days of gunnery on the precision gunnery training system (PGTS). During this training, students have an opportunity to conduct range operations, Gunnery Tables I through XIII with the TOW Gunnery Trainer (TGT) and the TOW Field Tactical Trainer (TFTT), and a live missile firing. Then they receive five days of instruction in training management, which includes preparing and presenting a 90day training plan for a TOW section or company.

The course also offers three days of training on the MILES system, including installation, boresighting, troubleshooting, and maintenance. This training

TOW MASTER GUNNER COURSE

6 Mar - 1 Apr. 1994 1 May - 27 May 1994 10 Jul - 5 Aug 1994

TOWPLATOONLEADER COURSE

10 Apr - 22 Apr 1994 5.jun - 1, Jun 1994 1/Sep - 23 Sep 1994*

MIT to Fort Bragg

is followed by two days of vehicle maintenance training in which troubleshooting, field expedients, and M901 turret systems are stressed. Finally, the students receive training on the secondary weapon systems, including the HMMWV interchangeable mount system (HIMS).

This course is tracked for the M901 improved TOW vehicle (ITV) and the M966 high mobility multipurpose wheeled vehicle (HMMWV). As the M901s in mechanized infantry Echo companies are replaced by BIFVs, the course will phase out the ITVs and track only the HMMWVs. The 11H NCOs in these units will then attend the BIFV Master Gunner Course, as will the 19Ds as their scout units are equipped with Bradleys. Once the transition is complete, the only NCOs attending the TOW Master Gunner Course will be those in the light infantry divisions. The School is currently researching the possibility of awarding an additional skill identifier (ASI) to graduates of this course.

To qualify for the course, NCOs must meet the rank and MOS requirements and

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also be BNCOC graduates, hold Secret clearances, and have certificates showing that they have passed the Gunner Skill Test (GST) (reference Field Manual 23-34, TOW Weapon System). Prospective students will also take the GST as a pretest when they arrive at Fort Benning and before being admitted to the course.

The TOW Platoon Leader Course teaches the basic technical and tactical skills involved in TOW employment, maintenance, and training aids. It is either conducted at Fort Benning or exported in the MTT mode. The course focuses on basic technical tasks in Skill Levels 1 and 2, TOW PGTS gunnery, MILES training, training management. tactical employment, and fire control. It also includes system-specific maintenance that differs from the maintenance instruction the officers have received in the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Current plans for the course also include tactics training followed by a tactical exercise without troops (TEWT) for reinforcement.

Graduates of both courses will prove invaluable to commanders: The NCOs will be expert in TOW training at platoon, company, or battalion level, where they will help plan and execute TOW training programs. The officers will be expert in TOW training, tactical employment, and emplacement at company or battalion level; and their basic understanding of the TOW's capabilities and limitations will enable them to be more effective platoon leaders.

Both pilot courses are in the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) for 1994. Since the maximum class size for both courses is only 28 students, commanders are urged to enter the names of their best-qualified NCOs and officers into the system as soon as possible.

For additional information, anyone

who is interested may call the 2d Battalion, 29th Infantry, at DSN 784-6742, commercial (706) 544-6742; or write to Commandant, U.S. Army Infantry School, Directorate of Operations and Training, Fort Benning, GA 31905; or to Commander, U.S. Army Infantry Center, ATTN: 2d Battalion, 29th Infantry, Fort Benning, GA 31905-5000. (This note was prepared by Captain Matthew D. Anderson, Assistant S-3, 2d Battalion, 29th Infantry.)

THE SNIPER TRAINING offered at Fort Benning by the U.S. Army Infantry School is being expanded. New developments in the capabilities of night vision devices (NVDs), changing conditions around the world, and the purchase of the Barrett .50 caliber rifle led to this expansion.

The new U.S. Army Sniper School will be five weeks long instead of three. It will include new counter-sniper training and will extend the training time devoted to marksmanship. The new course covers all the same tasks as the current one but also adds events that are based on equipment developments and includes more field training.

Three pilot test courses will be conducted from January through April 1994. Once these validation courses have been completed, the new program of instruction will go into effect for the remainder of the fiscal year. Graduates of the pilot courses will receive the additional skill identifier (ASI) of B4.

More seats in the classes will be offered to One-Station Unit Training (OSUT) soldiers immediately after basic training and advanced individual training (AIT). Thus, more sniper-qualified soldiers will be available to field units, and these units will save the cost of sending soldiers back to Fort Benning to be sniper qualified.

As a result, however, fewer seats will be available for soldiers already in the units as this transition progresses. By the end of Fiscal Year 1994, 75 percent of sniper school students will come directly from OSUT, and only 25 percent will be admitted from the field. Any commander who has a soldier he wants to send to

Sniper School should therefore get the soldier's name in the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (ATRRS) as soon as possible.

For additional information, write to Commandant, USAIS, ATTN: DOT, Current Operations Division, Fort Benning, GA 31905; or Commander, 2d Battalion, 29th Infantry, ATTN: Sniper School, Fort Benning, GA 31905; or call (706) 544-6742, DSN 784-6742.

THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATIONS will be distributed to the field in December 1993:

STP 7-11C14-SM-TG, Soldier's Manual and Training Guide, MOS 11C, Indirect Fire Infantryman, contains standardized training objectives in the form of summary tasks to train and evaluate soldiers on critical tasks that support unit missions during wartime. This manual is for soldiers in Skill Levels 1 through 4 who hold MOS 11C, and for trainers and first-line supervisors.

ARTEP 7-8-Drill, Battle Drills for the Infantry Rifle Platoon and Squad, provides a set of core battle drills for infantry rifle platoons and squads. The standards for the drills are written within the context of general tactical principles that allow changes based on conditions during execution. The reduced time-distance aspects of battle drills make them excellent opportunities for training during the short periods that become available throughout the day.

Change 1, Field Manual 23-1, Bradley Fighting Vehicle Gunnery, provides important changes to tactics, techniques, and procedures for BFV units, and an updated gunnery skills test administration guide and performance checklists. Some of the other changes include a revised Bradley platoon training strategy and intermediate gunnery information.

AN ARMOR HOTLINE is maintained at Fort Knox to enable units around the world to communicate with the Armor Center and receive answers to questions relating to armor and cavalry issues. For example, a recent study of the hot line showed that most of the callers requested copies of current doctrinal manuals. Requests for information on maintenance

AN INFANTRY STAFF correction: In laying out the article "NTC Lessons Learned: The Scout FRAGO" (INFAN-TRY, September-October 1993, pages 45–46), we inadvertently used only the front side of the scout FRAGO form.

Here are both sides of that form, with our apologies to the authors and to our readers who may have been confused by this oversight.

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issues ranked second and on gunnery training, third. Other questions were about changes in TOEs, the Class IX supply system, UCOFT (unit conduct of fire trainer) training, and BNCOC (basic non-commissioned officer course) attendance.

The Armor Hotline number is (502) 624-TANK, or DSN 464-TANK, or toll-free 1-800-525-6848. The Armor Hotline is also available through PROFS-KNO1 (TANKHELP), DDN TANKHELP% KNO1@LEAV-emh.army.mil. The caller will hear a recording that explains how to leave messages. Popular subject areas have been assigned individual mailbox numbers:

- 10-Main greeting and general inquiries.
- 11-List of mailbox numbers.
- 13—Combat development questions.
- 14—Battlespace Lab questions.
- 15-Maintenance questions.
- 16-Weapons questions.
- 17-Tank gunnery training questions.
- 18-Tactics and doctrine questions.
- 19-Armor Center and training questions.
- 20-Safety-of-use messages.

A caller who is unsure about which mailbox to use may leave a message after the initial recording, and his question will be sent to the correct agency.

The Armor Hotline is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Whenever possible, questions will be answered within 72 hours.

THE AN/PAQ-4B INFRARED aiming light, now being fielded, is a significant improvement over its predecessors. It has a range of 600 meters in full moonlight conditions and a longer range on darker nights. Its narrower beam produces a smaller, more distinct aim spot for greater accuracy. It also has improved off-axis visual security. Unlike previous aiming lights, the beam from the AN/ PAQ-4B leaving the system cannot be seen by enemy troops equipped with night vision devices who are more than six degrees off axis. Soldiers should be aware, however, that beam reflections from smoke or fog can be seen off-axis by enemy forces with night vision devices.

The new AN/PAQ-4B incorporates a number of features that dramatically simplify boresighting. These advances enable a soldier to be nearly boresighted when the aiming light is initially mount-



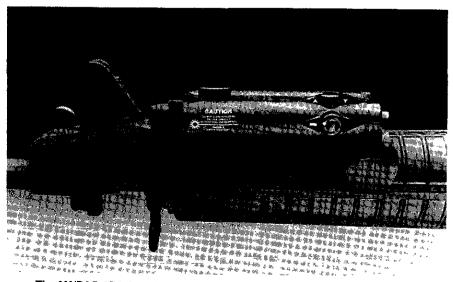
The 26th (Yankee) Infantry Division, Massachusetts Army National Guard, deactivated on 28 August 1993. It was the oldest combat National Guard division in the Nation, having been activated on 22 August 1917. Various reenactment groups participated as the division's colors were cased.

ed. Only fine adjustment is then required to be zeroed precisely. This simplified boresighting is achieved because the aiming light has a neutral position setting at which the laser beam is aligned with the mounting surface, and a precision bracket that is provided with each system.

To zero the aiming light to an M16 rifle, the user sets the light's boresight adjusters to their neutral position, attaches the M16 bracket supplied with the system to the M16, then attaches the aiming light to the bracket. The precision of the

aiming light and bracket are such that when the user fires at a 25-meter M16 zeroing target, the shot group is on the target. The user then adjusts the azimuth and elevation adjusters to bring the shot group to the target's designated strike point for precise zero. This final adjustment is also simple; one click of the adjuster moves the strike point one square on the standard M16A2 zeroing target.

The M16 bracket is used to attach the aiming light to the M16A1 and A2 rifles and the M16/M203 rifle with grenade



The AN/PAQ-4B infrared aiming light is seen here, mounted on an M16 rifle.

launcher. The bracket adapter is used to attach the aiming light to all standard AN/PVS-4 and AN/TVS-5 weapon sight brackets. These standard brackets are already in the field or can be requisitioned as additional authorized items for the AN/PAQ-4B. Also available as additional authorized items are special brackets for attaching the aiming light to the M249 machinegun and the new M4 carbine.

A user operates the AN/PAQ-4B infrared aiming light by depressing a switch lever built into the light unit. Or the light can be operated with a cable switch, provided with each system, that plugs into the back of the aiming light.

With its increased range, smaller size (5" by 2" by 3/4"), lighter weight (less than one-third pound with two AA batteries installed), ease of boresighting, and ability to fit most standard individual and crew-served weapons, the AN/PAQ-4B is a highly effective, easy-to-use system that enables a soldier to direct fire at night.

THE PRE-RANGER COURSE is one of several initiatives now under way at Fort Benning to improve Reserve component (RC) training for soldiers in the Army National Guard (ARNG) and Army Reserve Troop Program units.

This first initiative resulted from the

increasingly high attrition rate for ARNG soldiers entering the U.S. Army Ranger Course. The ultimate goal is to reduce this attrition rate by 40 percent.

The program of instruction for the Pre-Ranger Course (PRC) provides enough refresher training, physical training, and acclimatization to enable the National Guard soldiers to begin the Ranger Course on an equal basis with their Active Army contemporaries. The course will be offered two weeks before the start date of a Ranger class.

In the three PRC classes conducted to date, 16 of 17 ARNG soldiers went through the PRC successfully and completed the Ranger Assessment Phase of the Ranger Course. This success rate far exceeds the goal, and the PRC is now a prerequisite for ARNG soldiers attending the Ranger Course. (The accompanying table shows the dates for the remainder of Fiscal Year 1994.)

1994 SCHEDULE ARNG PRE-RANGER COURSE

24 JAN 94 - 06 FEB 94 14 MAR 94 - 27 MAR 94 25 APR 94 - 08 MAY 94 23 MAY 94 - 05 JUN 94 27 JUN 94 - 10 JUL 94 22 AUG 94 - 04 SEP 94 This program, modeled after several pre-Ranger courses now existing in the Active Army, is conducted by Ranger-qualified National Guardsmen on Active Duty Work Tours. It is managed by the Special Assistant to the Commanding General-Army National Guard at Fort Benning.

Among the other RC initiatives under way at Fort Benning are the Reserve Component Bradley Crew Training Strategy and the federal Officer Candidate School (OCS) Pilot Program with an ARNG Active Guard Reserve (AGR) cadre. These other programs will be discussed in future issues of INFANTRY.

The point of contact for additional information on the Pre-Ranger Course is LTC Willis, Special Assistant to the Commanding General, Army National Guard: DSN 835-5741, commercial (706) 545-5741.

A CONTRACT HAS BEEN awarded for the production of 25mm ammunition for the automatic cannon used by the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps. The 25mm cannon is used on the Bradley fighting vehicle, the light armored vehicle, the AV-8B Harrier aircraft, and shipboard defense systems. The contract calls for four different types of training and combat ammunition.

